Good Citizen

BY DEVON BALWIT

Shoulder slung against flood, you haul and fill bags, old heart not quite up to the task. A trooper, though, you evade the knacker through effort, the shuck of the shovel in, and the shloop before knotting each neck. Lost youth rises like a hard-on in the gathering storm clouds, the uptick in wind. You tremble as you fill the fiftieth, the fifty-fifth. When you stagger against your neighbor, he stands you back upright. The contact feels good.

